

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency (AAT Deficiency or Alpha-1) is one of the most common serious hereditary disorders in the world and can result in life-threatening liver disease in children and adults or in lung disease in adults; and,

Whereas, 100,000 U.S. citizens are estimated to suffer from Alpha-1, and an estimated 25 million people in the U.S. carry a single deficient gene that causes Alpha-1 and may pass the gene on to their children; and,

Whereas, Alpha-1 is widely under-diagnosed and misdiagnosed, and less than 10 percent of those predicted to have Alpha-1 have been diagnosed. It often takes an average of five doctors and seven years from the time symptoms first appear before proper diagnosis is made, which can be detected by a simple blood test; and,

Whereas, It is important to increase awareness and detection of this serious hereditary and misdiagnosed disorder; and,

Whereas, An awareness campaign will take place throughout the state to include educating the public as well as our medical community on Alpha-1 and detection and treatment for those affected by this condition:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2008 as

ALPHA-1 AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventh Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.



M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State